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February 24, 2004 LB 773, 1049, 1080 LR 242, 243

do with this bill? Only a minor connection, but every time you lengthen disqualification periods, for example, these are families with kids, where do they go? They go onto our welfare They go onto our food stamp system. system. It was an agreement made between government and labor and business at some time in the past that said employers are going to be, in part, responsible for this system of employment that we have in this country, and the government will be responsible for part of it. Now business, or at least I should say Senator Cunningham, doesn't want business to be as responsible, and so the effect is to shift off the burden onto the workers themselves and the low-income families, and to further shift the burden to general taxes, General Fund taxes. These are not General Fund taxes This is a matter of employee-employer relationship right now...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...in terms of the financial support of the system. The amendment that I'm offering you right now I offer to point out to you that things that are called not just, in terms of leaving employment, many of us would consider just. I would be offended if a spouse didn't or resisted following the other spouse to another work situation simply because the family couldn't afford to make the move if the spouse lost the job and had no unemployment compensation to help make that transition. That's what we're...that's what we're saying with the law we have now. We don't want to give the spouse who is also working the ability to transition to a new job elsewhere when her spouse gets work in a new...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...geographic location. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Mr. Clerk, items for the record, or announcements?

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Retirement Systems Committee reports LB 773 and LB 1080 as indefinitely postponed. New resolutions: LR 242, LR 243 by Senator Combs, both will be laid